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75-1266

United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE TO
STUDY GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH
RESPECT TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 21, 94TH CONGRESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Ad Hoc Staff

75-103

March 12, 1975

Mr. William E. Colby
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Colby:

On behalf of the Senate Select Committee To Study Governmental Operations With Respect to Intelligence Activities, I want to thank you for your letter of March 11, and the copy of the Employee Bulletin you have issued to all CIA employees. As we jointly recognize, in order for the Committee to carry out a thorough inquiry, in accordance with the mandate contained in S. Res. 21, the Agency's full cooperation will be necessary. Your recognition that our mandate authorizes all, past and present, agency employees to cooperate fully, and without impediment due to secrecy agreements, will serve to facilitate our expeditious collection of material relative to that mandate.

I particularly appreciate your statement recognizing our security precautions. As you know, your staff was very helpful to the Committee's staff in designing those precautions.

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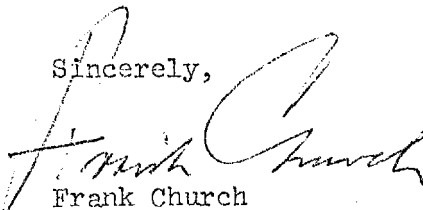
The Staff Director and the Chief Counsel will, under the direction of the Committee, notify [redacted] of the members of the Committee who have been designated to carry out studies, inquiries and investigations required to meet the tasks specified in S. Res. 21.

It is the Committee's understanding that the members of the Committee and designated staff will have access to any and all information which the Committee determines is necessary for its inquiry. We recognize, however, that the Committee inquiry may touch on sensitive areas, such as the identity of CIA personnel, sources, or cooperating organizations whose disclosure could place persons in actual jeopardy. In the event that the Committee inquiry touches on such sensitive areas, which matters we have already discussed in our meeting of February 27, we should discuss jointly, and as you suggest quickly, what procedures might be followed should the Committee decide it requires more information in these specific areas.

Mr. William Colby
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I welcome these first steps in close cooperation and hope that it forecasts an expeditious and thorough inquiry that will result in the strengthening of our nation's intelligence activities under the law.

Sincerely,



Frank Church
Chairman